



PATENT

Attorney Docket No. HOOV 120

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael D. Hooven

Serial No.: 10/015,476

Filed: December 13, 2001

Examiner:

Art Unit: 3739

For: SUB-XYPHOID METHOD FOR ABLATING
CARDIAC TISSUE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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) Christine A. Barglik
) Christine A. Barglik

) Date: March 18, 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment in the above-
identified patent application prior to substantive examination.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph 1 with the following paragraph:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is a division of application Serial No.
10/038,506, filed November 9, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part
of application Serial No. 10/032,378, filed October 26, 2001, which
is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/844,225,